

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR



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STATE OF ALABAMA

July 29, 2022

The Honorable Todd Kim
Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Environment and Natural Resources Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Sirs:

Please accept this letter as a statement of my support Continental Carbon Company in Phenix City, Alabama, as it seeks to maintain production while meeting and exceeding necessary environmental standards. Specifically, it is my request that the Department of Justice (DOJ) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) fully consider an extension to the current deadline for Continental Carbon to install new emission controls at its Alabama carbon black production facility.

It is my understanding that compliance with the black carbon industry emissions DOJ/EPA consent decree was once considered economically unfeasible for Continental Carbon's Phenix City plant. Sadly, it was scheduled to close later this year. However, events in recent months – primarily Russia's invasion of Ukraine – have transformed the carbon black market and created massive shortfalls in related supply chains that experts expect to grow significantly in the coming years.

Now, Continental Carbon has proposed a solution that would secure a domestic source of carbon black and help address future supply chain constraints. More importantly, it would meet the compliance standards and important environmental goals set forth by your agencies. This can be achieved all while remaining Phenix City's second largest employer, providing more than 120 good, high paying jobs and producing more than 100 million pounds of carbon black annually.

As Governor, preserving Alabama's diverse and beautiful natural resources by way of protecting the environment is among my top priorities. So too is preserving the jobs of hardworking Alabamians whose families rely on responsible employers. If approved, Continental Carbon's proposal to keep its Phenix City plant operating while expeditiously investing in and installing new emission controls would fulfill both of these priorities, and it is my hope that it would exceed your expectations.

Thank you for your full consideration of this request to extend Continental Carbon Company's deadline to install new emission controls at its Alabama carbon black production facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Ivey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Kay Ivey
Governor